

REMARKS

Claims 34-37, 57-69, 74-77, 101, and 102-118 are pending.


The Examiner's indication of the allowability of Claims 34-37, 57-67, 74, 77, 101, and 102 is noted with appreciation. To expedite issuance of a patent, Claims 68, 69, 75, 76, and 103-118 have been canceled without abandonment of the invention of the canceled claims, without acquiescence to the Examiner's rejection of the canceled claims, and without prejudice to applicants to file a patent application in the future directed to the subject matter of the canceled claims.

Applicants have amended the specification to include a Cross-Reference to Related Application section. Applicants believe that the Brief Description of the Drawings section and Abstract are acceptable.

Applicants believe that Claims 34-37, 57-67, 74, 77, 101, and 102 are in condition for allowance. If any issues remain that may be expeditiously addressed in a telephone interview, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' attorney at 206.695.1755.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Group Art Unit 1615, Examiner G.S. Kishore, at facsimile number 571.277.0598, on March 17, 2004.

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GER:md

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